

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1- 18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A method for improving or treating of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) comprising administering a therapeutic agent comprising an effective amount of anti-CD-81 antibody to a ~~mammal~~patient in need thereof.

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the anti-CD81 antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

21. - 30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, in which the antibody is provided in the form of a Fab, F(ab')₂, Fv or single-chain Fv.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the ~~mammal~~patient in need thereof is suffering from IBD associated with shortening of the intestinal length and wherein the shortened intestinal length is improved or treated by the method.

33. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the effective amount is 0.0001 mg to 1000 mg per kilogram of the body weight of the patient for one administration.

34. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the effective amount is several milligrams to 2 g per day.

35. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the patient in need thereof is suffering from IBD associated with loose stool or diarrhea and wherein the loose stool or diarrhea is improved or treated by the method.